

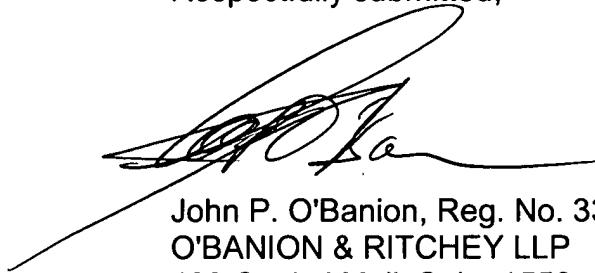
REMARKS

This First Preliminary Amendment is being submitted at the time of filing to reduce the number of claims originally presented for examination in anticipation of a restriction requirement. Claims 1-220 contain multiple embodiments which may be considered separate inventions for purposes of examination. Therefore, the Applicant has reduced the number of claims for initial examination, as well as for the purpose of reducing filing fees.

Claims 139-198 are pending, and examination thereof is respectfully requested. The remaining claims have been canceled since they are pending in a related copending application.

Date: 12/12/03.

Respectfully submitted,



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CERTIFICATION UNDER 37 CFR 1.10

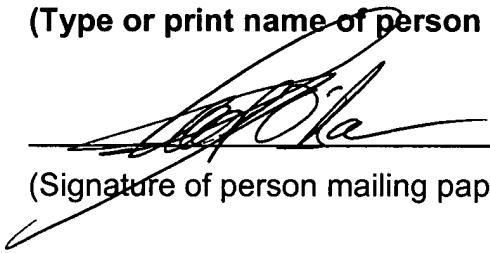
I hereby certify that the foregoing:

First Preliminary Amendment Canceling Claims

is being deposited with the United States Postal Service on 12 December 2003 in an envelope as "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" Mailing Label Number EV352304703US addressed to the: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

JOHN P. O'BANION

(Type or print name of person mailing paper)


(Signature of person mailing paper)